

Message

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Subject: Summary of Thursday, September 5, 2013 Monthly Call - Hopi Water Infrastructure Projects

The next monthly water infrastructure call is scheduled for Thursday Oct. 3, 2013. Bessie will email the agenda and call-in phone number.

Participants:

Upper Moenkopi ... Gov. Sam Shingoitewa, Ronalyn Outie-Rios, and Yvonne Hoosava
Sipaulovi ... King Honani Sr.
Shungopavi ... Micah Lomaomvaya
First Mesa Villages... Phyllis Wittsell and Gail Poley
Hopi Tribe ... Yvonne Day, Lionel Puhuyesva and Maria Nachie
Consultants ... Lynette Polari, Mike Janes
IHS ... Adam Hughes, Brad Rea, Tom Heintzman, Eric Matson, Jesse DeCoteau, and Robert Lorenz
USDA ... Mike Luecker
USEPA ... Bessie Lee, Susanne Perkins and John Hamilton

Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Project (HAMP):

1. Well Drilling The well drilling rig was inoperative for two weeks, but is now back in service and reaming the bore hole from 12" to 18" diameter for installation of steel casing and the stainless steel screen segments. Both the casing and screen are onsite and the install is expected to begin within a week. Four water samples were be

collected from the potential production zones and tested for a full range of water quality parameters. Results of the first water quality tests are now available and the water quality is very good, with the arsenic level below 5 ppb (MCL=10 ppb). Well development and test pumping will be conducted within the next six weeks to determine the yield of the well.

2. **BIA Participation** HQ Indian Affairs (IA) is still considering whether BIA/BIE could support moving forward with connections to the HAMP for the three BIA operated water systems serving Keams Canyon, the Jr/Sr High School and Second Mesa Day School. There were no BIA representatives on the call and we believe the agencies may be seeking planning funding? While a decision was anticipated earlier, we are hopeful the funding will be available. IHS and the Tribe are completing a draft planning agreement, which will be shared with BIA/BIE, Sipaulovi and First Mesa, and with BIA/BIE.
3. **EPA Project Funding** EPA, through the DWTSA program, plans to add approximately \$285,000 funding to the HAMP project. IHS and the Hopi tribe are finalizing project documents to secure the funds. The Tribe can apply for FY 2014 DWTSA funding by submitting a letter from the Chairman requesting continuation of funding.
4. **USDA-RD Application** IHS is working with both BIA and the villages to collect user information, population, water production, utility budgets and collections, and subsidies or other sources of income for the water utilities for the strategic plan. Information has been provided by Sipaulovi and Keams Canyon and Brad is working with Shungopavi, the Jr/Sr High, and SMDS, although FMCV has not been willing to participate, pending a meeting with the Tribal Chairman.
5. **HAMP Planning and Engineering** IHS and WRP staff met with representatives of the villages of Shungopavi, Mishongovi and Sipaulovi to consider alternate sites for a ground level water storage tank, which will serve Sipaulovi and Mishongovi. Next month IHS plans to finalize the location and preliminary design for all HAMP facilities and develop a map of definite location that may be used in a right-of-way process. Also work on the PER will continue, with emphasis on addressing USDA's comments, although the PER can't be finalized until BIA/BIE decides if they will join the project. Outreach to villages is continuing. Shungopavi plans a community meeting on 9/24 and WRP and IHS will attend. Bessie asked if there are village concerns about health effects of arsenic in drinking water during the interim until the HAMP is completed. A toxicologist from either EPA or U of A may be available for another public meeting. Several village representatives advocated for information on health effects from a toxicologist. Tawa 'Ovi consultants requests routine planning meetings with HAMP planning staff, including WRP and IHS. The next meeting is scheduled for 9/26 and 9/27. There was a discussion of consecutive system, master water meters and chlorination requirements for the proposed extensions of the HAMP to BIA/BIE. EPA uses the Ten State Standards for chlorination guidance, which requires a detectable residual throughout the distribution system. Addition of chlorine after water storage tanks may be needed, including providing power and security for the equipment.
6. **Environmental Assessment** At the request of the Hopi Tribe, completion of the EA is held-up pending a decision by BIA/BIE to participate in the HAMP. If the agencies decide to participate, a planning agreement will be executed and then we estimate completion of the EA would require about 6 months due to biological and cultural surveys, preliminary engineering and consideration of 404 requirements for two wash crossings.
7. **HUD CDBG Application** Unfortunately the HUD ICDBG grant application for improvements to the Sipaulovi water system, including a portion of the pipelines planned for the HAMP was not eligible for funding, due to Hopi audit issues. There was a question about whether audit issues may be problematic for the potential USDA loan and grant?

Shungopavi Projects:

8. The radio telemetry system linking the water storage tank and well has been inoperative for about two weeks. The contractor will be informed.
9. **HAMP Waterline Extension** The EPA grant to fund a water main extension of the Shungopavi water system north along SR 264, which was funded with funds remaining in the above project., is approved. IHS completed the Project Summary and MOA and the Tribe is reviewing the documents. Housing proposed for this area may not move forward due to concerns about wastewater disposal including potential septic tanks with rocky soils or very expensive sewer extensions, due to rock and topography.
10. The community is considering new water and sewer user fees and the recently purchased another septic tank pumper truck.

Upper Moenkopi Water and Wastewater:

11. Wastewater Treatment Plant The Tribe has not yet responded to EPA's letter asking if they would like to consult on NPDES discharge permit issues at Upper Moenkopi. DMR's have been received from Kerry, but not yet reviewed.
12. Utility Management RCAC, IHS and EPA are planning operator training this fall.
13. Water System Well #1 has had electrical problems and Upper Moenkopi is relying on the RO water treatment plant and the other wells. The RO treatment plant has been problem free (finally).
14. New Water Storage Tank The new water tank should be completed by about October 1.
15. Community Water Meters The last 15 meters have not yet been installed, so the community is still using the residential flat rate of \$45/month for water and sewer service.

John Hamilton, PE
EPA Engineering Consultant